



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

ELP
Docket No. 7727-99
10 March 2000

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 8 March 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 14 July 1997 for four years at age 18. At the time, you extended your enlistment for a period of 24 months for training in the advanced electronics field and accelerated advancement to pay grade E-4.

The record reflects that you served without incident until 21 October 1997 when you were referred for a psychological evaluation. Your chief complaint was:

"I can't take life in the military any longer. I've been depressed ever since I've been in. I get really bad headaches, my chest starts hurting. I cry in my rack every night. I've thought of attempting suicide or hurting myself to get someone to listen. I am willing to do anything to get out. I need help."

Psychological testing was conducted and you were diagnosed with an adjustment disorder with mixed emotional features, and an

unspecified personality disorder with passive-dependent features. You were considered to be a high risk for suicidal behavior given your history of impulsivity, emotional instability, and suicidal thoughts. Administrative separation was recommended.

On 29 October 1997 you were notified that administrative separation action had been initiated by reason of convenience of the government due to the diagnosed personality disorder. You were advised of your procedural rights and waived your right to have your case reviewed by the general court-martial convening authority. Thereafter, the discharge authority directed an uncharacterized entry level separation by reason of personality disorder. You were so discharged on 10 November 1997 and assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

Regulations authorize the assignment of an RE-4 reenlistment code to individuals discharged by reason of personality disorder. The Board noted the contention that you were told that reenlistment would be authorized when you got yourself straightened out, but no branch of service will take you without a change in the reenlistment code. You have provided no evidence that the diagnosis of personality by the Navy is erroneous or invalid. Since you posed a potential risk for harm to yourself or others at the time of your discharge, the Board concluded that the assigned reenlistment code was proper and no change is warranted. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director